

substantially different from those described above but which, due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, still encode at least one antibody as described herein and/or as known in the art. Of course, the genetic code is well known in the art. Thus, it would be routine for one skilled in the art to generate such degenerate nucleic acid variants that code for specific Bcl2 related protein, heterologous protein or antibody or specified portion or variants of the present invention. See, e.g., Ausubel, et al., *supra*, and such nucleic acid variants are included in the present invention.

~~In another aspect, the invention provides isolated nucleic acid molecules encoding a(n) antibody or specified portion or variant having an amino acid sequence as encoded by the nucleic acid contained in the plasmid deposited as designated clone names and ATCC Deposit Nos. _____, respectively, deposited on _____.~~

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As indicated herein, nucleic acid molecules of the present invention which comprise a nucleic acid encoding at least one Bcl2 related protein and at least one heterologous protein or antibody or specified portion or variant can include, but are not limited to, those encoding the amino acid sequence of a Bcl2 related protein, heterologous protein or antibody fragment, by itself; the coding sequence for the entire antibody or a portion thereof; the coding sequence for a Bcl2 related protein, heterologous protein or antibody, fragment or portion, as well as additional sequences, such as the coding sequence of at least one signal leader or fusion peptide, with or without the aforementioned additional coding sequences, such as at least one intron, together with additional, non-coding sequences, including but not limited to, non-coding 5' and 3' sequences, such as the transcribed, non-translated sequences that play a role in transcription, mRNA processing, including splicing and polyadenylation signals (for example - ribosome binding and stability of mRNA); an additional coding sequence that codes for additional amino acids, such as those that provide additional functionalities. Thus, the sequence encoding a Bcl2 related protein, heterologous protein or antibody or specified portion or variant can be fused to a marker sequence, such as a sequence encoding a peptide that facilitates purification of the fused antibody or specified portion or variant comprising a Bcl2 related protein, heterologous protein or antibody fragment or portion.

Polynucleotides Which Selectively Hybridize to a Polynucleotide as Described Herein

The present invention provides isolated nucleic acids that hybridize under selective hybridization conditions to a polynucleotide encoding Bcl2 related proteins disclosed herein, e.g., at least one of SEQ ID NOS:1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or others disclosed herein or known in the art. Thus, the polynucleotides of this embodiment can be used for isolating, detecting, and/or quantifying nucleic acids comprising such polynucleotides. For example, polynucleotides of the